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Application No.: 09/857,480 Inventor: HEGER et al.

Reply to Office Action of 19 April 2006

Docket No.: 49619

## **REMARKS**

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Young and Supervisor Hartley for courtesies extended to their representative during phone interviews throughout the week of 14 August to 18 August, 2006. The interviews attempted to clarify issues relating to the Office Action of 19 April 2006. Apparently, a problem arose at the USPTO wherein Examiner Young lacked access to a declaration submitted with Applicants' reply of 5 December 2005. Consequently, the Office Action of 19 April issued without examination of the declaration. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request a complete review of the submitted declaration and issuance of an appropriate Action. Additionally, where the Action includes a rejection of one or more claims, Applicants respectfully request resetting the time period for response.

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## Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 14.1437. Please credit any excess fees to such account.

Respectfully submitted,

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